

Welcome to Pudsey Parish Church

Sunday 1st March 2026 – The Second Sunday in Lent

This Sunday

9.00 am Service with Holy Communion
10.30 am Service of the Word
6.00 pm Confirmation Service at Christ Church

Upper Armley you are welcome to attend this special service and support Anne & Michael from our church family getting confirmed.

Readings Romans 4: 1-5, 13-17 & John 3: 1-17

Collect

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Flowers in loving memory of:
My parents, from Margaret Cooper.
Ken Rhodes, love from Fran

Diary for the week

Night Shelter all week 8-11.30pm & 6.30-8.30am

Monday 2nd March

9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC baby & toddler group
7.00 pm Bible Course

Tuesday 3rd March

9.30 am – 11.15 am ABC baby & toddler group
2.00 pm – 4.00 pm Mothers Union meeting
6.00 pm Beavers

Wednesday 4th March

10 am Midweek Communion
12 pm - 2.30 pm Esther Connect Group
4.15 pm – 5.30 pm AV Testing
6.00 pm Vicars Hour *by appointment*
6.00 pm & 7.30 pm Cubs and Scouts

Thursday 5th March

11.30 am-1.30 pm Connect
Free light lunch served, open to all the community.
8.00 pm – 9.00 pm Parenting for Faith
Held elsewhere, please ask if you are interested.

Friday 6th March

2.00 pm Mothers Union World Day of Prayer
Meeting at St. Andrews Methodist Church

Saturday 7th March

3.00 pm Masterworks Chorale Concert & Cake

Next Sunday 8th March 2026

9.00 am Service with Holy Communion
10.30 am Service with Holy Communion
6.00 pm Holy Communion with anointing

Readings Psalm 40 & John 2: 13-22

Notices

Today our 10.30am service is led by Esther, one of our Connect groups. Please speak to Gareth if you would like to join a Connect group, it's a great way to grow your faith & friendships.

Are you on the parish electoral roll?

Today is the last day to be included on the next electoral roll. Forms & further information are available in church.

Night Shelter

We're pleased to say plans are coming together! If you've signed up to help, keep an eye out for emails with further information. If you have any questions, contact Sally in the office.

Flowers

If you would like to donate towards the flower display in Church for Mothering Sunday, please speak to Jenny Crossland.

Mothers Union

Don't forget the MU have a couple of events taking place this week. On Tue 3rd Mar at 2pm in church, it is their AGM & Lent talk by Gareth. Then Fri 6th Mar at 2pm at St. Andrews Methodist Church they are marking the World Day of Prayer with a special service. All are welcome to both events.

Music Session – Sat 14th March

Musicians wanted! See the sign-up sheet in church.

Marriage Encounter Weekends

The perfect opportunity to spend a weekend learning & practising new ways to deepen your relationship, presented by a Christian team. For more info speak to Sue & Chris Kelk or email booking@marriageencounter.org.uk

Sunday Welcome Team

Could you help on the Welcome Team at the 10.30am Sunday Service? We need a couple more people to greet before the service and serve drinks afterwards. Let Sally or Marian know, thanks!

Notices for this sheet to be sent by Wednesday 11am to office@pudseyparish.org.uk 0113 2577843

www.pudseyparish.org.uk

John's Reflection

James 1: 2-4,12

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

How good are you at persevering? For me it depends what the situation is as to whether I persevere or not. Sometimes if I'm doing a challenging walk you get to the point of no return where it's easier to go on to the end rather than turn round and walk back the way that you've come.

We're now in Lent and for the next few weeks our connect groups are going to be studying James' letter to the twelve tribes of Israel. There are 4 James' mentioned in the New Testament but there are only two who are prominent enough to identify themselves so simply. One is James, the brother of John, the sons of Zebedee. The other is James the brother of Jesus (he's also known as James the Just) and it's this James who's thought by a number of theologians to be the author of this letter.

These early verses of the letter examine trials and temptations. James is particularly emphasising how Christians must stand firm, especially when we face trials (v.2). One thing I've learnt as a follower of Jesus is not if we face any trials or challenges, but when and how many and how we face them. There is a sense of inevitability about them, but are we joyful? In The Message version of this passage, it says that we should consider these trials as a 'gift'. There are probably many trials, temptations and situation where we don't feel they're a 'gift'. We definitely might not feel joyful!

Faith is tested through trials and when trials are received with faith, it produces patience and more often than not we learn about God, ourselves and our faith. The work of patient endurance though comes slowly, and it must be allowed to have full bloom. Patient endurance is a mark of the person who is perfect and complete and who lacks nothing. Verse 12 tells us that those who persevere under trial are blessed. because, having stood the test, that they will be rewarded with 'the crown of life'. This doesn't say that 'blessed is the man who's never tempted' and it doesn't say that 'blessed is the man who finds all temptation easy to conquer.' The promise of blessedness is given to the one who endures temptation. To receive that special gift of blessedness from God, we need to say 'no' to temptation and say 'yes' to God. Because with God, he will give us the strength to persevere and hopefully receive 'the crown of life'.